1897MNRAS..58...48I

The Binary Star h 5014. By R. T. A. Innes.

This star is identical with Piazzi 17^{h} 341, R.A. $17^{h}\ 59^{m}\ 36^{s}$ Dec. −43° 25′·8 (1900) mag. 5·2 from Bailey's Southern Photometry. Its motion was early recognised, but the measures of Jacob, which we can now see are mutually inconsistent, made it difficult to reconcile all the observations made into even a passable orbit. It will be understood that from Jacob's station the star can only be seen at a comparatively small altitude, and from the closeness of the components and the inferiority of the telescope used it must have been a very difficult pair to deal with. The components are very nearly equal in magnitude; on one occasion Jacob found half a magnitude of difference between them, and on several occasions I have thought the now preceding star slightly the fainter, but it is really doubtful if it is so. I have, however, added 180° to all angles since the time of Jacob, and get thus :—

	Angle.	Distance.		Nights.
	°	″		
1836·7	69·1	0·67	*h*	2–1
1856·7	312·3	0·5 ±	Jacob	1
1857·7	317·2	0·6 ±	„	1
1878·7	268·0	1·38	Melbourne	1
1880·5	259·3	0·81	Russell	1
1886·6	254·8	1·27	Pollock	1
1887·8	253·0	1·38	„	3–2
1893·6	248·1	1·02	Sellors	3
1895·6	247·3	1·47	„	3
1896·6	245·6	1·49	„	3

Some of the measures of distance seem to suffer from large errors of observation. The motion is retrograde. It will be seen that apparent periastron probably took place about 1840–1855, and that in fifty-seven years from the date of discovery half of the angular orbit was described. It looks, however, as if the period was much in excess of twice the number of years already elapsed.

The Melbourne measure, which was probably made by Mr. Ellery, was kindly communicated by Mr. Baracchi, the present Government Astronomer there.

The series of measures made under Mr. Russell's direction is very valuable. This pair has a common proper motion of 0″·14 per annum towards 208°·6.

One of *h*'s measures is set against *h* 5013, and his identification of the star as *Brisbane* 6308 is also erroneous. The star *Brisbane* 6308 follows and is included with the pair in a low power field.

Royal Observatory, Cape of Good Hope:
1897 *November* 17.

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1897MNRAS..58...48I

Occultation of Ceres by the Moon on 1897 *November* 13. *Observed at the Hamburg Observatory.* By Prof. George Rümker, M.A., Director of the Observatory.

(*Communicated by the Secretaries.*)

In consequence of the communication in *Monthly Notices*, vol. lvii. No. 9, it has been possible for Dr. R. Schorr to observe the occultation with the 9½-inch equatorial of this observatory. The planet was clearly visible before the immersion near the Moon's limb, but, unfortunately, a few seconds before occultation thin clouds covered the Moon, and the planet disappeared. The time of immersion could therefore only be estimated as $10^{h}\ 45^{m}\ 15^{s}$ Greenwich Mean Time, with an uncertainty of ±5 seconds. The reappearance of the planet was well observed in a cloudless sky at $11^{h}\ 43^{m}\ 4^{s}{\cdot}4$ Greenwich Mean Time.

The reappearance was not instantaneous, but the light showed a distinct increase for $0^{s}{\cdot}1$ or $0^{s}{\cdot}2$. With a comet-seeker of 5 inches clear aperture the phenomena could not be observed.

Occultation of Ceres by the Moon, 1897 *November* 13, *observed at the Radcliffe Observatory, Oxford.*

(*Communicated by the Radcliffe Observer.*)

The occultation-reappearance of *Ceres* (on the Moon's dark limb) was observed here by Mr. Wickham and myself as follows :

	Observer.	Instrument.	Power.	Time Noted.	Oxford Sidereal Time.	Greenwich Mean Time.
				h m s	h m s	h m s
1897 Nov. 13	A. R.	Barclay Equat.	45	2 58 25·5	2 58 11·98	11 29 54·6
	W.	Heliometer	80	2 59 0·2	2 58 12·03	11 29 54·7

Observers' Remarks : Instantaneous (A. R.). Very good (W.).

Radcliffe Observatory : 1897 *December* 9.

Observations of Meteors on 1897 *November* 13–15, *made at the Radcliffe Observatory, Oxford.*

(*Communicated by the Radcliffe Observer.*)

On November 13 the watch for meteors was continuous from $11^{h}\ 15^{m}$ till $17^{h}\ 45^{m}$ G.M.T., when clouds quickly and permanently covered the sky.

The night on the whole was very fine, with a heavy dew. The atmosphere was very clear throughout, and the sky cloudless, except for a few short intervals.

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